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SENATOR AGUILAR: Thank you, Mr. President. As I said, over 80 percent of the deaths in Nebraska are in the rural areas. It didn't take long to realize, after reading that, that there's no way I could support an exemption for them when that is exactly where the problem occurs. We need to protect the rural children. Their lives are important to us and they should be important to you. And with that, I ask for your support of this amendment. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: I misspoke and said "closing." It was the opening of Senator Beutler's AM2503. Open for discussion. Senator Quandahl, Senator Hartnett, Senator Chambers, Senator Stuthman. Senator Quandahl, on the Beutler amendment.

SENATOR QUANDAHL: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. I rise for a couple different reasons, but just to try to bring a little bit more knowledge to the body and to bring attention to this particular amendment that's before us right now. I do understand that a number of the people that were interested in the bill did get together and did come up with this particular amendment, however, I can tell you that I wasn't one of those people. I think I was involved in some of the discussions at the initial...when the bill was first initially debated, and then later on, on Select File, when it was debated and, as you will recall, we were successful in getting an amendment to the original bill that would put an exemption from the bill at that 25 mile-an-hour traveling or less. If you remember, a majority of us agreed that that was a good idea, to put that into this particular bill, and I was involved in drafting that amendment. However, I have to tell you that I wasn't involved in the consideration in drafting this particular amendment, and so I'd point out a couple of things about this particular amendment that jump out at me. Particularly one thing is, is that this amendment would strike that 25 mile-per-hour or less exemption, and so you should be aware of that. Another thing is, is that it does make a violation a primary offense, meaning that somebody who would be...you could be pulled over for this and this alone, and that's interesting because in the original bill, the original bill was drafted as a criminal statute and, as such, a violation of LB 227 would subject a person to a criminal conviction, a fine, and points